

**TRADITIONAL SMALL CRAFT ASSOCIATION  
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
9 MARCH 2003  
MYSTIC SEAPORT**

Council members present were John Weiss (President), Andy Wolfe (Vice-president), Tim Weaver, Eleanor Watson, and Tom Shephard. Also present were Frank Durham, Treasurer; Peter Vermilya, Secretary; Chauncy Rucker, Chapter Coordinator; Myron Young, Phil Behney, Bill Armitage, Larry McGee and Geoffrey Conklin.

President John Weiss called the meeting to order at 9:55am, a quorum being present.

**1. Appointment of Interim Director**

Phil Behney was unanimously elected to fill the Council seat left vacant when Bruce Thurston, Class of 2003, resigned. Phil's e-mail address is [behney@ctol.net](mailto:behney@ctol.net). Phil volunteered to pick up, sort, and forward the mail received at TSCA's P.O. Box 350, Mystic, CT.

Frank Durham said that the membership database which he administers is built on top of Dbase 4, a DOS-based application, and could be run on any system running Windows 2000 Pro, Windows 98, and Windows 3.11.

**2. Reading of the Minutes**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to waive reading of the Minutes of the June 3, 2003 Council Meeting. There being no changes or additions to the minutes, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as posted on [www.tasca.net](http://www.tasca.net).

**3. Status Reports**

John Weiss reported that most Status Reports had been submitted in writing and are now available on the TSCA website at [http://www.tasca.net/pdf/TSCA\\_Council\\_Reports\\_030309.pdf](http://www.tasca.net/pdf/TSCA_Council_Reports_030309.pdf).

**Treasurer's Report**

Frank Durham reported that his report contained a typographical error. The Cash on Hand total should read \$19,456.75. He also pointed out the sharp fall in Income for Fiscal Year 2002/3, due primarily to the lack of renewal notices and occasional tardy processing of checks.

Council members then discussed some figures for a tentative 2002/3 Budget based on Frank's membership numbers and figures from Dan Drath:

<b>Dues Income</b>		\$16,200.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
Ash Breeze	\$10,262.00	
Insurance *	2,500.00	
Mailings (membership renewals and Council elections)	1,200.00	
P.O. Box rental	48.00	
Address "Return Service"	100.00	
Mail Forwarding expenses (incurred)	<u>160.00</u>	
Total expenses		\$14,270.00

\* The major "unknown" is the cost for Insurance; see below.

The Ash Breeze cannot be used for distributing ballots, as it is scheduled to come out in mid to late May and the election results must be received and counted by the TSCA Annual Meeting held on June 7 & 8, 2003. Use of e-mail is not practical now. Although e-mail addresses are requested along with membership data, they are not incorporated into the present membership database. An increase in membership should not cost much, as enough Ash Breezes are already printed (1000 per issue) to service new members.

### **The Ash Breeze**

Editor Dan Drath submitted a [written report](#) in advance of the meeting.

Production Costs for four issues are budgeted at \$10,262.00. This figure includes the \$240.00 cost per issue for using a mailing service for three issues. The fourth issue may be mailed by Myron Young at the Seaford, NY Post Office in order to maintain the bulk mailing permit located there, although other types of mailings may suffice for this purpose (annual ballots, etc.). Dan has applied for auxiliary permit locations in Providence, RI, to accommodate the mailing house, and in Friday Harbor, WA. Mailings to members not located in the United States and to addressees which receive more than one issue may need to be dealt with on a special basis. Issues are scheduled to reach readers on April 1, June 1, Sept 1 and December 1.

### **Sponsor Memberships**

After considerable discussion aimed at arriving at a rational basis for determining advertising rates, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to expand the Sponsor level of membership to include the following fee structure and benefits:

\$ 50.00	Individual Sponsor	No ad
\$125.00	Corporate Sponsor	1/8 page ad (business card)
\$250.00	Corporate Sponsor	1/4 page ad
\$500.00	Corporate Sponsor	1/2 page ad
\$750.00	Corporate Sponsor	1/2 page ad; plus sponsorship of a 1/2 page ad for a TSCA related event for which the Corporate Sponsor would be credited.

There was discussion of requiring the larger ads to be placed for a full year to compensate for the increased layout time required.

Additional advertising copy may require expanding the size of the Ash Breeze. As this must be done in four page increments, this would run, using present cost figures, \$366.50/page or \$1464.00/increment.

Additional pages would allow for more editorial content of the nature once carried by Small Boat Journal [RIP], but seldom seen today, such as lines and construction plans. This extra content would encourage increased membership.

### **EBSCO report**

Chauncy Rucker submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

EBSCO has placed scanned copies of the Ash Breeze on an electronic database to which people can subscribe.

TSCA has recently subscribed to EBSCO's Librarian Journal for \$109.00/year. This Journal goes to 25,000 Libraries. EBSCO will charge Libraries \$50.00 for a hardcopy subscription, of which EBSCO will keep a 20% commission before sending a cheque to TSCA. TSCA will do the fulfillment. This \$50.00 subscription does not qualify the Library for a Sponsor level membership.

No progress has been made toward digitizing issues of the Ash Breeze which were published before last August when the agreement with EBSCO was made. Chauncy will approach EBSCO sometime after the 2003 Annual Meeting when TSCA will have established a sales track record with EBSCO.

### **Gardner Grants**

Ben Fuller submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

The Gardner Grant Fund ended the year with \$41,606.00 in the Fund. \$4450.00 is earmarked for distribution for the 2002/3 funding year.

Sigrid Trumpy, of the Annapolis Chapter of TSCA, has submitted a [request for funding](#) which would allow her to continue her documentation and replication of a flat bottom skiff built by her grandfather, John Trumpy, noted yacht designer and builder. Upon completion of the project, the original skiff, along with all documentation, would be given to a museum such as Mystic Seaport Museum or the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. The replica skiff would be given to a suitable non-profit after a period of exhibition. The Gardner Grant Committee recommends that \$1000 to \$1200 be awarded.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to award Sigrid Trumpy \$1200, with the proviso that Mystic Seaport Museum have right of first refusal on the replica upon completion of the exhibition period.

### **Chapter Coordinator Report**

Chauncy Rucker, Chapter Coordinator, submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

Chauncy said that local member support was absolutely necessary for the success of TSCA booths run at boat shows such as the WoodenBoat Show, the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop, or the Mid Atlantic Small Craft Festival.

Myron Young pointed out that there may be conflicts in goals between local TSCA chapters and their Museum hosts. Andy Wolfe pointed out the need for a Chapter to have a stable, heated, meeting place.

### **Membership Coordinator Report**

Elizabeth "Cricket" Evans submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

Cricket is doing the notifications of membership renewals. She is getting information from Dan Drath and John Weiss at present, but the process will be formalized soon. Reminder postcards will be reprinted.

### **Legislation**

Larry McGee reported that there would be a hearing on 3/10/03 concerning a bill in front of the Connecticut Legislature proposing that people in non-powered boats be required to wear PFDs twelve months of the year instead of the present requirement of six months.

Larry also reported on a hearing concerning efforts to have all non-powered boats eight feet and over registered in Connecticut. The rationale for the bill's passage is that federal dollars for marine improvements are allocated to the states on the basis of how many boats are registered by a state. The efforts behind this bill seem to have ended for this year. The CT DEP may take up the legislative effort next year, however. John Weiss requested that Larry McGee keep him updated on the situation so he could keep the TSCA website up-to-date.

John Weiss explained that TSCA had taken a negative position at the hearings on the proposed Connecticut registration bill. He also said that Russ Smith, TSCA's Legislative Coordinator, had already been asked to put together a draft statement of TSCA's position on PFD wear. This draft statement would be open for discussion.

Myron Young expressed concern that TSCA's privileges stemming from its 501.C(3) status might be placed in jeopardy if TSCA's lobbying efforts were too aggressive.

There was general agreement that educational efforts on legislative matters would equip individual members to act on their own.

### **Class Boat**

Andy Wolfe reported that the criteria for selection of a class boat for TSCA were too broadly drawn to allow a single choice. As a result, discussion by the Selection Committee has bogged down.

John Weiss suggested that Andy might work with Tim Weaver on examining the boats included in Ben Fuller's book *87 Boat Designs*.

### **Website**

John Weiss submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

John inquired of Frank Durham if he had received an invoice from By-the-Sea for its hosting services. Frank said the last check to By-the-Sea was written last July.

John said that the domain registration was good for the next six years.

### **Boat List**

Ben Fuller submitted a [written report](#) prior to the meeting.

John Weiss said he had responded to an inquiry from Ben by setting up a notional database on TSCA's Yahoo News Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TSCA-TraditionalSmallCraftAssn/database?method=reportRows&tbl=1> but had not received any feedback from Ben.

Peter Vermilya will forward on to Ben three hardcopy registrations he had received at P.O. Box 350.

## **New Business**

### **Donation to the Boat Livery at Mystic Seaport Museum**

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to donate \$750 to the Boat Livery at Mystic Seaport to compensate for foregone revenue during the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop in June of 2003.

At this point, the Old Business topic of the membership application and renewal process was opened.

Frank Durham asked for guidance on the method to be used to forward mail to him. There was agreement that the method must be traceable. U.S. Priority Mail, second day, was suggested, as was UPS Ground. U.S. Priority Mail, Registered Return Receipt, would no longer be necessary.

Further discussion of the "back office" procedures determined that Frank Durham will continue to maintain the membership records, and that Cricket Evans will continue to send out membership renewal requests.

In the case of new or renewal membership applications, Phil Behney agreed to maintain a written record of the name of the member, and, in the case of a new member, send that member a copy of the most recent Ash Breeze along with a membership card and TSCA decal.

Peter Vermilya will supply Phil with a temporary supply of membership cards and will investigate the reprinting of the perforated membership postcard. Chauncy will supply Peter with a model of this postcard.

## **Wares**

Peter Vermilya reported that he had talked with Richard Collins, executor of Ken Steinmetz's estate, and that Richard felt that he could give Myron Young access to the TSCA material stored in Ken's garage in about two weeks time - around 3/20/03.

A new Waresmeister will need to be located before an inventory of existing wares can be made and supplies ordered.

## **Insurance**

Peter Vermilya reported that TSCA's old insurance company, the Hartford, was no longer insuring TSCA as of 1/18/03. TSCA's agency, the Thomas Fahy Agency, had found a substitute policy, a general liability policy underwritten by Western Way. This policy would not insure any activity on the water, however, and would cost appreciably more than the policy with The Hartford.

Peter said he had followed down a lead with AIG which proved unfruitful. He has also contacted U. S. Sailing and is investigating their Burgee Program for Paper Clubs.

U.S. Rowing, Paddlesports Association (Andy Wolfe will provide a name), American Canoe Association (Paul Regan of Shaw & Tenney) were suggested as possible sources. John Weiss inquired if the TSCA website listing of events would suffice if an insurance company required an advance listing of events.

It may be necessary that a TSCA chapter member also be a national member to be covered by TSCA insurance.

Peter Vermilya inquired as to how many chapters owned or leased real property and how many chapters owned boats as chapters. CROPC, JGTSCA, Floating the Apple, and the Michigan chapter were mentioned as definite, or possible, property lessors or owners.

## **Proposed Bylaw Changes**

John Weiss discussed possible changes to the TSCA Bylaws. The [full text of these changes](#) had been circulated to the Council in advance of the meeting.

Changes to Article V, Section 5, would allow Council business, including voting, to be conducted by e-mail.

Changes to Article VI, Section 5, would allow any member of the Association to attend the annual meeting, and any Director to attend a Council meeting, by proxy.

There was discussion of setting up "chat rooms", etc., as alternatives to proxies. Andy will inform the Council about the possibilities of running phone service on the Internet.

Changes to Article VI, Section 6, expands the definition of "mail" to include US Postal Service, e-mail, express mail (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), fax, or a combination thereof. The word "fax" was inserted at the meeting, 3/9/03.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to support these changes to the Bylaws.

These changes will be put in the form of a ballot and voted on by the membership prior to the annual meeting, June 7, 2003.

### **Boat Show Presence, 2003**

John Weiss said that Puget Sound TSCA will need the TSCA Boat Show material for July 4, 2003 use at the Center for Wooden Boats Show. Peter Vermilya will send John an inventory of said items for planning purposes. Chauncy will ask the chapters for local boat show dates, encouraging them to include a TSCA presence.

Andy Wolfe will update and republish the TSCA trifold brochure. John Weiss has provided Andy with images. Tim Weaver said that brochures and a plastic brochure holder could be sent to Museums, etc., for display. Andy will check on sources. Chauncy said the brochures would be especially useful at boat shows. Tom Shephard reported that his chapter was in the process of getting a professionally designed and produced three-panel exhibit which would stand on its own and would not need to be tended. It would be used at local shows, including a decoy and gunning show. Perhaps the national should look into something similar.

Peter, Chauncy and Myron will discuss TSCA presence at the Wooden Boat Show, Rockland, ME. Tom Shephard will look into staffing MASCF and John Weiss is on top of staffing the show at the Center for Wooden Boats, Seattle, WA.

John Weiss asked for addresses of the suppliers of TSCA wares. Frank Durham will look through his invoices. Peter Vermilya will look through the TSCA archives. John Weiss will ask his wife, Ellen, to experiment with developing sewing machine embroidery stitching software files. Council members volunteered to look at their favorite hat labels.

### **Other Old Business**

Frank Durham will write a check for the amount of the recent Pfizer donation and send it to CROPC, care of Geoffrey Conklin. CROPC will then decide how much to donate back to the national.

### **Other New Business**

Myron said he would need any information on John Gardner Award recipients before May 1, 2003, in order to get the award made in time for awarding at the Annual meeting. Tim Weaver said that some written matter on the last recipient, Ed McCabe, would be ready by mid-Summer for the TSCA website.

Chauncy suggested Mike Davis as a possible recipient. John Weiss called for other nominations to be sent to him, hopefully with citations. Tim Weaver suggested Stephen Jones, of Flat Hammock Press.

It was moved, and unanimously voted, to adjourn the meeting at 2:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter T. Vermilya  
TSCA Secretary